

SUCCESS - YOUR OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION - A MANDATE FOR
THE FUTURE

THANK YOU.....

IT IS A PLEASURE TO BE HERE IN COLUMBUS, OHIO ON THE CAMPUS OF MY ALMA MATER, OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY FOR THE 1987 AUTUMN QUARTER COMMENCEMENT. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATES, YOUR SUPPORTIVE FRIENDS AND YOUR PROUD FAMILIES. I'M SURE, FOR ALL OF YOU, THIS DAY TRULY REPRESENTS A JUBILANT EVENT IN A FESTIVE HOLIDAY SEASON.

I HAVE CHOSEN AS THE TOPIC FOR MY COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS TO YOU "SUCCESS- YOUR OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION-A MANDATE FOR THE FUTURE". SPEAKERS ON OCCASSIONS SUCH AS THIS ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE LOFTY STATEMENTS. THIS ONE, I HOPE, WILL BE NO EXCEPTION. YOU BUCKEYE GRADUATES ARE INDEED FORTUNATE. YOU ARE LIVING IN THE BEST NATION ON THIS EARTH, AND YOU ARE GRADUATING FROM, NOT ONE OF THE BEST SCHOOLS IN THE WORLD, BUT THE VERY BEST. THIS MANDATES YOUR SUCCESS, NO MATTER WHAT YOUR FIELD OF ENDEAVOR.

YOUR OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION ALSO PLACES A HEAVY OBLIGATION ON YOU. THIS PAST SPRING, DURING THE GRADUATION

EXERCISES, THE REV. DR. REUBEN A. SHEARS ADMONISHED THOSE GRADUATES IN THESE WORDS - "OF THOSE TO WHOM MUCH HAS BEEN GIVEN, MUCH IS EXPECTED". I WOULD RE-ISSUE THAT CHALLENGE TO ALL OF YOU GRADUATING TODAY. OF YOU, MUCH SUCCESS IS EXPECTED.

YOUR SUCCESS SHOULD ALWAYS BE WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF MORALITY. ON THIS CAMPUS, I AM PROUD TO SAY, MORALITY HAS NEVER TAKEN A BACK SEAT TO ANY ENDEAVOR. THE PROUD WINNING TRADITION OF THE CRIMSON AND CREAM IN ATHLETICS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF STRONG MORAL VALUES. THE WORLD LOOKS AT OHIO STATE AS AN ATHLETIC POWER. IF WE WERE TO VIOLATE ANY REGULATION, IT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED JUSTIFIABLE FOR A LESSER POWER OR SMALL COLLEGE TO DO THE SAME. I, AND THE WORLD, EXPECT OF YOU GRADUATING TODAY, THAT YOU WILL MOUNT A SUCCESSFUL CHALLENGE TO WORLD PROBLEMS.

IN THE AREA OF THE ECONOMY, THE STOCK MARKET ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH DID SOMETHING IT RARELY DOES. IT POSTED A LOSS ON THE DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING. THE DOW-JONES AVERAGE OF 30 INDUSTRIALS SKIDDED 36.7 POINTS, THE BIGGEST LOSS ON THE DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING IN 35 YEARS. ONLY SIX OTHER TIMES IN THAT PERIOD HAS

THE MARKET POSTED A LOSS ON THAT DAY. IN FOUR INSTANCES, THAT LOSS WAS LESS THAN A POINT, ANALYST'S HAVE POINTED OUT. HONESTLY, PEOPLE ARE WORRIED. THEY DON'T KNOW THE IMPACT OF THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION ON THEIR LIVES. THE WORLD WILL BE DEPENDING ON YOU OHIO STATE ECONOMISTS TO PROVIDE IT WITH SUCCESSFUL SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS IN ECONOMICS.

I EXPECT FROM SOME OF YOU SUCCESS IN THE AREA OF RESEARCH AND TREATMENT IN A CURE FOR ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME. AIDS IS ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL PROBLEMS FACING THE WORLD TODAY. THE SUCCESSFUL SOLUTION SHOULD NOT COME SOLELY FROM THE EFFORTS OF THOSE IN THE AREA OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH, BUT ALSO FROM YOU SOCIAL SCIENTISTS. ABOUT 45,000 AMERICANS HAVE BEEN DIAGNOSED AS SUFFERING FROM AIDS, ACCORDING TO THE FEDERAL CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL, AND MORE THAN HALF THAT NUMBER HAVE DIED. ACCORDING TO THE KINSEY INSTITUTE, WHICH STUDIES THE SEXUAL PRACTICES OF AMERICA, BEHAVIORAL SCIENTISTS AND MEDICAL RESEARCHERS MUST POOL THEIR EXPERTISE TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF AIDS. SINCE AIDS IS SPREAD PRIMARILY THROUGH SEXUAL CONTACT, PHYSICIANS NEED THE HELP OF SOCIAL SCIENTISTS TO LEARN VICTIMS' SEXUAL PRACTICES TO PROMOTE AN UNDERSTANDING OF HOW THE DEADLY

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DISEASE IS TRANSMITTED. UNTIL A CURE FOR THIS DISEASE IS FOUND, THE BEST WAY TO SLOW OR HALT ITS SPREAD IS TO TELL PEOPLE HOW IT IS TRANSMITTED. I EXPECT OF YOU INVOLVEMENT AND SUCCESS IN THIS CRITICAL PROBLEM FOR ALL MANKIND. EACH GRADUATE SHOULD MOVE TO THE FORFRONT OF SOCIAL CHANGE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE HUMAN CONDITION.

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR DISCIPLINE, WHETHER YOU HAVE COME TO OHIO STATE FROM A BIG CITY OR A SMALL TOWN IN THE NORTH, EAST, SOUTH OR WEST - ALL AMERICANS MUST BE CONCERNED FOR THE HOMELESS OF THE WORLD. URBAN DEVELOPMENT, BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL, HAS MEANT A DECLINE IN PLACES OF OCCUPANCY FOR THE POOR AND THE UNEMPLOYED. THE DE-INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE MENTALLY ILL BEGAN IN THE 1960's. THIS WAS UNDERTAKEN WITH THE BEST OF INTENTIONS, RETURNING PEOPLE TO THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES WHERE THEY COULD BE CARED FOR ON AN OUT-PATIENT BASIS, UNFORTUNATELY MANY OF THOSE RELEASED HAD NOWHERE TO GO AND NO ONE TO CARE FOR THEM. OTHERS AMONG THE HOMELESS ARE LIVING TESTIMONY TO THE COST TO SOCIETY OF SCHOOL DROP-OUTS AND ILLITERACY. A POLL COMMISSIONED BY A MAJOR UNIVERSITY FOUND THAT MOST AMERICANS PERCEIVE THE PROBLEM OF THE HOMELESS TO BE MORE SERIOUS THAN

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IT WAS FIVE YEARS AGO. FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS SAID THAT THEY WOULD SUPPORT INCREASED GOVERNMENT SPENDING TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM, EVEN IF IT MEANT HIGHER TAXES. YOU, THE OHIO STATE GRADUATING CLASS OF 1987, MUST TAKE THE LEAD TO HELP THOSE LESS SUCCESSFUL THAN YOURSELVES. YOU HAVE A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO GUARANTEE HELP FROM BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR.

YOUR OHIO STATE EDUCATION SHOULD MANDATE ADDITIONALLY YOUR SUCCESS IN INFORMING THE WORLD OF THE INJUSTICES OF APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA. YOU SHOULD BE SUCCESSFUL IN INFORMING THE WORLD OF STARVATION IN ETHIOPIA. HUMANKIND DESPERATELY NEEDS YOU TO LEND YOUR VOICE, SUPPORT AND SUCCESS IN THE QUEST FOR PEACE SO THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS MAY LIVE LESS IN FEAR OF NUCLEAR ANNIHILATION. YOUR EDUCATION MANDATES YOUR SUCCESS AS CITIZENS, PARENTS, DOCTORS, AUTHORS, LAWYERS, THINKERS, HUMANITARIANS.

IN CLOSING, I REMIND YOU OF WORDS YOU LEARNED VERY EARLY IN YOUR FORMAL EDUCATION. THE MANDATE FOR SUCCESS ISSUED BY RUDYARD KIPLING MORE THAN A CENTURY AGO:

IF YOU CAN KEEP YOUR HEAD WHEN ALL ABOUT YOU ARE
LOSING THEIRS AND BLAMING IT ON YOU,
IF YOU CAN TRUST YOURSELF WHEN ALL MEN DOUBT YOU,
BUT MAKE ALLOWANCE FOR THEIR DOUBTING TOO;
IF YOU CAN WAIT AND NOT BE TIRED BY WAITING,
OR BEING LIED ABOUT DON'T DEAL IN LIES,
OR BEING HATED DON'T GIVE WAY TO HATING,
AND YET DON'T LOOK TOO GOOD, NOR TALK TOO WISE.

IF YOU CAN DREAM - AND NOT MAKE DREAMS YOUR MASTER.
IF YOU CAN THINK - AND NOT MAKE THOUGHTS YOUR AIM;
IF YOU CAN MEET WITH TRIUMPH AND DISASTER
AND TREAT THOSE TWO IMPOSTERS JUST THE SAME.
IF YOU CAN BEAR TO HEAR THE TRUTH YOU'VE SPOKEN
TWISTED BY KNAVES TO MAKE A TRAP FOR FOOLS.
OR WATCH THE THINGS YOU GAVE YOUR LIFE TO BROKEN
AND STOOP AND BUILD THEM UP WITH WORN-OUT TOOLS.

IF YOU CAN MAKE ONE HEAP OF ALL YOUR WINNINGS,
AND RISK IT ON ONE TURN OF PITCH AND TOSS,
AND LOSE AND START AGAIN AT YOUR BEGINNINGS
AND NEVER BREATHE A WORD ABOUT YOUR LOSS.

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IF YOU CAN FORCE YOUR HEART AND NERVE AND SINEW
TO SERVE YOUR TURN LONG AFTER THEY ARE GONE,
AND SO HOLD ON WHEN THERE IS NOTHING IN YOU
EXCEPT THE WILL WHICH SAYS TO THEM: "HOLD ON!"

IF YOU CAN TALK WITH CROWDS AND KEEP YOUR VIRTUE
OR WALK WITH KINGS NOR LOSE THE COMMON TOUCH.
IF NEITHER FOES NOR LOVING FRIENDS CAN HURT YOU,
IF ALL MEN COUNT WITH YOU BUT NONE TOO MUCH.
IF YOU CAN FILL THE UNFORGIVING MINUTE
WITH SIXTY SECONDS WORTH OF DISTANCE RUN
YOURS IS THE EARTH AND EVERYTHING THAT'S IN IT,

TO PARAPHASE KIPLING, YOU, MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, WILL BE
MEN AND WOMEN.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EACH OF YOU.